[25th February 1955

Sri V. BALAKRISHNAN :—" Sir, is any expenditure being incurred for research work for the discovery of more attractive designs of saris and improved methods in the working of handloom."

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" The question of having more attractive and captivating designs is also under the examination of Government."

Sri K. P. GOPALAN :—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government have any proposals before them to spend money for Malabar for constructing sizing institute, dyeing institute and calendering mill in view of the peculiar conditions in Malabar? "

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Yes, Sir. Government are aware of the peculiar conditions of Malabar and there are proposals for starting industrial co-operatives regarding two factories. Regarding the other proposals, I am not aware that any proposals are now before the Government."

Sri V. R. KRISHNAN :—" May I know, Sir, whether any amount is spent for pit-loom weavers? "

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" I would like to have notice, Sir."

Mental Hospital, Madras

* 893 *Q.*—Sri K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any corrupt practices in regard to the articles intended for the patients in the Mental Hospital at Madras have been reported to Government;

(*b*) if so, what they are; and

(*c*) the action taken to prevent such corrupt practices?

The Hon. Sri A. B. SHETTY :—" (*a*) No, Sir.

" (*b*) & (*c*) Do not arise."

Sale of rice to the Central Government

* 894 *Q.*—Sri N. K. PALANISAMY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) the rate per maund at which the Government bought rice prior to October 1954; and

(*b*) the rate per maund at which the Government sold rice to the Central Government in October 1954?

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" The average prices at which stocks of rice allotted to this State under the Basic Plan were purchased from Orissa, Andhra, Uttar Pradesh and Coorg States during 1954 are as follows :—

(1) Orissa State—Rice—Rs. 18–3–10 per maund including cost of gunnies.